

MEETING OF
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, February 15, 2012, with the following members in attendance:

William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman	Mark Davis representing Ed Kee, Secretary of Agriculture
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.	Lisa Embert representing Chip Flowers, Jr., State
Mike Valenti representing Steve Ditmer, Forestry Council	Treasurer
Kevin Coyle representing Collin O'Mara, Secretary of DNREC	

Absent: Robert Emerson, Robert F. Garey, L. Allen Messick, Jr., and William "Chip" Narvel, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Austin Short, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, and Chief of Planning; Howard Mesick, Cathy Mesick, Milton Melendez, Kathi Spangler, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, Esq. and Mr. Ray Davis.

Vice Chairman Bill Vanderwende opened the meeting at 8:30 a.m.

I. Current Situation Report:

Robin West informed the Board that we have a total of 1,106 farms in preservation districts totaling 156,693 acres, with a total of 692 farms under agricultural easements totaling 105,558 acres at a cost of \$188,020,537. For PDR 17, there are a total of 30 farms, comprising 1,438 acres, with a value of \$8,820,540. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 37 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,678 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Area Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 872 acres, with a value of \$1,450,804.

III. Monitoring Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that the 2012 monitoring has started west of Dover. So far, thirty-five parcels have been looked at.

IV. Districts – Final Approval (Contingent Sale):

1. Med Davis Family District, ID#K-11-12-262. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for final, approval, contingent upon sale, the Med Davis Family District, seconded by Lisa Embert. Motion unanimously approved.**

V. Expansions – Eligibility & Final Approval (Contingent Sale):

1. Ward Farm Expansion of the Chipman Farm District, ID#S-11-12-080M. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Ward Farm Expansion of the Chipman Farm District, contingent upon sale, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. Ray Davis Expansion of the Med Davis Family District, ID#K-11-11-262A. After discussion, **Lisa Embert moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Ray Davis Expansion of the Med Davis Family District, contingent upon sale, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Expansions – Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Warfel Expansion of the Molasses Street District, ID#S-11-11-138G. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Warfel Expansion of the Molasses Street District, seconded by Mark Davis. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. Moore Family Farm Expansion of the Moore-Abbott Farms District, ID#S-11-12-052K. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Moore Family Farm Expansion of the Moore-Abbott Farms District, seconded by Lisa Embert. Motion unanimously approved.**

3. Thomas & Louella Pritchett Expansion of the Hering-Lynch District, ID#K-11-11-031E. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Thomas & Louella Pritchett Expansion of the Hering-Lynch District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – Secretary of Agriculture Ed Kee previously waived the right of veto for the above five Expansions and the one District by e-mail sent February 13, 2012.

VII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

VIII. Minutes:

Vice Chairman Vanderwende asked if there were any comments or changes to the January 18, 2011, minutes. One change was noted the correct spelling of Mr. Ditmer's last name. That change was already done in the computer version which would be the one the Chairman would sign after approval of the January minutes. The Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes with the correction to the spelling of the last name of Mr. Ditmer. **Lisa Ember moved to approve the January minutes with the above mentioned correction, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

IX. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick presented the Financial Statement for the month of January 2012, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of January 31, 2012, \$299,203.89 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$43.02 interest income, \$43.02 roll back taxes, and \$210.00 license plate income. Expenditures for the month of January totaled \$39,872.85. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept the December financial statement as presented, seconded by Robert Emerson. Motion unanimously approved.**

X. Executive Session – Michael Parkowski indicated there was no a need for an executive session. However, Mr. Parkowski did mention that now is the time for members of the Board to contact the legislature regarding funding for farmland preservation. Austin Short mentioned the Bond Bill Hearing coming up February 28th starting at 3:00 p.m. at Legislative Hall and urged attendance at the hearing of those Board members who could attend.

XI. Other Business:

1. Wilson Farm

The Magee family will be bringing their request to install pivot irrigation and a corn maze (conditional use) at the March meeting of the Foundation. The Magee family will wish to extend their lease for the loan period of the irrigation project.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on March 21, 2012 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,